

# NEWSLETTER OF THE CASTLECRAG PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

No. 29

JULY - AUGUST 1983

## COMMITTEE REPORT

## CASTLECRAG PROGRESS ASSOCIATION.

The Executive Committee wishes to report progress on some items referred to in the last edition's report by the President.

Bus Shelter - 5 entries have been received. 4 of these have already been referred to the Council Engineer who advises that they appear to be suitable as regards construction. Hopefully, the entries will be judged by an architect, to be nominated, and the winning entry announced by the next General Meeting.

Proposed Northbridge Marina - The Government has decided to hold an inquiry headed by a Commissioner. The inquiry will receive written submissions over the next six weeks and a hearing will follow. Our association will be making a fresh submission and we hope that those who are interested will contact the Secretary or the President of the Association and offer comments.



Local Council Elections - Eric Kaye has been again endorsed as the candidate for our Ward, unopposed, to represent our Community, if elected, for the next four years.

The Executive Committee also reports that an application has been submitted to Council for proposed additions and alterations to the Castlecrag Private Hospital. The Association was asked by Council to make a formal submission should there be objections to the proposal. A submission has been made since by the Association objecting about the degree of increase in size, also the traffic and parking problems in Sortie Port, and the traffic safety in Edinburgh Road, close to the infants school.

## OBITUARY

Castlecrag Progress Assoc. Committee.

We were grieved at the recent death of Roma Hilder. Roma and Bim have been very active members of our community since the days of Walter Burley Griffin, and Roma will be sadly missed. We extend our sincere sympathies to Bim and their two sons Kim and Larrie, and to Roma's brother Noel Hopkinson and his family.

 NEXT MEETING OF CASTLECRAG PROGRESS ASSOCIATION WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY 23rd AUGUST, 1983 AT 8 P.M. IN THE CASTLECRAG COMMUNITY CENTRE OFF THE POSTERN, CASTLECRAG. ALL RESIDENTS AND FRIENDS VERY WELCOME. 

REFLECTIONS ON THREE YEARS IN COUNCIL.

Since my election as your Alderman, I have reported in each copy of the CRAG on resolutions of Council affecting our community. The Progress Association has endorsed me for a second term and because of this I see an obligation to report on my past three years in Council. Let me start by saying that I have enjoyed the work and found it rewarding, though it has proved to be far more time consuming than I had expected. Willoughby Council is non party political, I would not consider continuing if this were otherwise. Local Government is very close to the people and decisions made by Council should be on merit alone. The policies on which I was elected three years ago were primarily:

1. To oppose the construction of the Warringah Freeway and to seek a better solution to Willoughby's traffic problems.
2. To work for the conservation of our natural and historical environment.
3. To support orderly and purposeful development of our Municipality.

I have fulfilled these promises to the best of my ability and have always made myself available, to discuss with residents their problems, and to adequately represent their case to Council. Occasionally I have been involved in bitter argument to put my point of view in debate; sometimes winning, sometimes losing. When I have lost, which fortunately is not very often, my loyalty to the team demands that I respect the majority decision.

The Warringah Freeway Inquiry is completed and there appears little further we can do in this regard until the findings are made public. However the other policy matters are ongoing.

I have been appointed to a number of Council committees where I feel my previous training and experience provides a purposeful contribution and will continue with this policy. Finally, Noel Reidy, John Squire and I have combined to form a Progress Associations' team for Middle Harbour Ward., and we shall be seeking your support on September 24th.



## le'Crag.

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SPRINGTIME IN THE CRAGS GARDEN.

Conservation Society.

While many keen gardeners are slaving over a hot rose bush or greasing the Victa ready for the new year's onslaught of chlorophyll, the big backyard, the bushland is bursting forth in colour and fragrance. The Boronias, Wattles, Grevilleas and all the other funny looking flowers that we see in books or exhibitions, are all doing their thing - just over the back fence, or down the nearest gully where many gardeners dump their rubbish.

The end of winter (August 1st was wattle day) and spring is the time to appreciate and recognise that the bush is really just a big natural garden.

There should be no such thing as "garden refuse" it's either compost, mulch or good fuel for those cold winter nights or summer barbeques.

Why do people take weeds from their garden and dump them into another garden only to create a fire hazard for their garden? Makes no sense, then I suppose not many things do these days! Try to make sense of a Grevillea flower under a magnifying glass, but don't take too many we'd all like to enjoy them.



GREVILLEA PUNICEA

**C O N T R O L L E D   B U R N S   !!!**

**ARE YOU AWARE THE WILLOUGHBY COUNCIL VOTED TO BURN THE HAROLD REID RESERVE ( PICNIC AREA)? DESPITE THE OFFER BY OUR ASSOCIATION TO HAND CLEAR AND SAVE THIS UNNECESSARY DESTRUCTION!**

## NIGEL'S QUALITY MEATS

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### MEMORIES BY DOUG CHANDLER.

The Chandler family have been part of Castlecrag for almost 50 years, moving here in 1937. At that time there were only six shops in Castlecrag, all on the southern side of Edinburgh Road, and Chandlers had two of them. One they used as a storeroom and the other as a mixed business. They sold groceries, vegetables, newspapers, comics and conducted the post office and an agency for the Commonwealth Savings Bank. On one side of them was the bakery, where our bread was baked in the ovens still to be seen in the Castlecrag Cellars. This was run by a Mr. Taylor and his son Billy, the bread was delivered by horse and cart. Present day conservationists would be horrified to know that Mr. Taylor cut down Casuarina trees to fuel his ovens, maintaining that the low gum content of this wood produced a good bread.

On the other side was Reg Medway's butcher shop. Besides providing our meat, Reg was the volunteer fireman, and was paid the princely sum of 10 shillings when called out to fight a fire. The other two shops were housed in a stone building, at one time the sales office for the Greater Sydney Development Assoc., and Walter Burley Griffin, later to become our first garage.

In a letter to the Crag, Doug Chandler records the following memories:-

"Eastern Valley Way was non existant; the road from Northbridge to Castlecrag as far as the creek was known as Eric Street. Then there was Warners' dairy and Chinese market gardens, finishing at Edinburgh Road. Lyle Street, ran from there towards Roseville, to the laneway which joins into Fourth Avenue and from there to Robert Street it was just bush.

(cont'd P.5)

# CASTLECRAG CELLARS

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(cont'd from P4)

It was not until 1939 that Eric Street and Lyle Street were joined to become Eastern Valley Way.

New shops were built on the north side of Edinburgh Road in 1941/2 and the Chandler family took two of these, a greengrocery run by my brother Ces, who sold out during 1942 to join the army. In 1947 Mr. Chandler sold the grocery business and moved into the present location.

This is about all I can bring to mind, except that the area that is now the Bottleshop was first, to my knowledge, used by an off-beat American religious sect, then as an Air Raid post, and then as a Scouts Hall. Also, that Castlecrag was in those days a great place for a 16 year old youth to grow up in. Plenty of natural bush, fishing, swimming in tidal pools attached to unoccupied weekenders, oysters and mussels for the taking, and rabbit shooting on Warners' Dairy -- a real Utopia."

Many of us can remember with affection the old Chandler Couple, always referred to, even in our "first name" community, as Mr. and Mrs. Chandler. They continued with us until they retired, delivering our mail and groceries and minding our prams and old walking shoes when we made a trip to town. We were happy that it was Doug Chandler who took over from his parents, and now we have Vanessa, Doug's daughter, and her husband John, still carrying on in the old tradition.

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## COMMUNITY NEWS

## SALVATION ARMY RED SHIELD APPEAL 1983

Rita Kaye.

Thanks to all those who helped with the collection, and to all those who donated so generously. The total amount collected for Castlecrag was almost \$2000, and for Willoughby as a whole \$30,200 to date, which at the present time is the largest amount collected by a municipality. We had 30 collectors calling in Castlecrag, our thanks and gratitude to those who came forward to help.



## COMMUNITY INFORMATION AND SERVICES.

During recent weeks Willoughby Community Information & Services Centre has conducted a symposium at the council chambers to advise residents of the work being done and the wide range of information available to the community. This information can be obtained either verbally from the centre at 81 Orchard Road, (phone 412 4656) or through pamphlets from the Willoughby Library.

During the symposium the need was expressed for volunteers to assist in a variety of work being done by the following organisations:-

Meals on wheels.  
Dougherty community centre.  
Home care service.  
Information service.

Linen service  
Handyman Service.  
Gardening Service  
Neighbourhood service (shopping  
visiting, driving).

If you have any spare time, and would like to help out in any of the above services, would you please phone 412.4656. Your help would be most welcome, and could be the means of helping some mother to cope with a disabled child or an aged person to remain in their own home instead of being admitted to a nursing home.

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## WILLOUGHBY FUN FAIR

SATURDAY 17th SEPTEMBER, 1983 at WILLOUGHBY PARK !!!

URGENTLY NEEDED!!..... BOOKS·CLOTHS·TOYS·RECORDS·BRIC-A-BRAC.

CHECK YOUR CUPBOARDS ....WE WILL COLLECT.....PHONE MARCELLA 956936 DOROTHY 955851  
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This year we are planning to have a number of stalls, including our usual bric-a-brac, hoop-la and a new endeavour SIZZLING SAUSAGES!

This promises to be a very exciting day for all the family, we urge you all to come.



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